

Appl. No. 10/621,686
Response Dated June 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 10, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the consideration shown by the Office, as evidenced by the Office Action, mailed on March 10, 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 13-14, 18, 33-34, 38, 49, 54-60, objected to claims 50-53, and allowed claims 1-12, 15-17, 19-32, 35-37, and 39-48. Claims 1-60 remain under consideration in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the following remarks.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 13-14, 18, 33-34, 38, 49, and 54-60 under 35 USC 102(e) over Gannaway (GB 2,376,585) or Bombardier (WO 03/027706). Applicant respectfully submits that 35 USC 102(e) is inapplicable to the two references because (1) Gannaway does not appear to have been filed as "an international application ... under the treaty defined in section 351(a)," and (2) Bombardier does not appear to have been "published ... in the English language." Withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(e) rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 50-53 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner indicated that claims 50-53 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because the base claim was rejected on grounds which appear to be inapplicable, Applicants have not amended these objected claims.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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